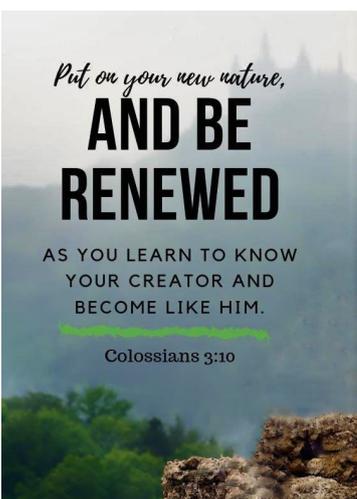
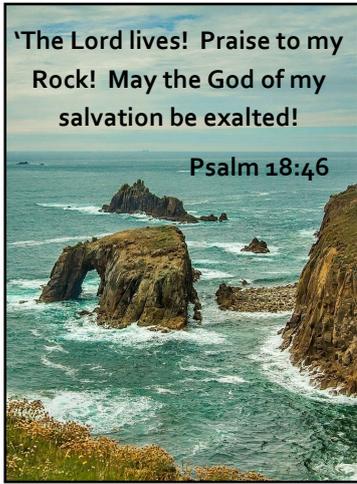


Battle Baptist Church

Being Transformed Together



6th June 2021



Friendship

I am currently using a tea towel given to me by a friend and produced by the Leprosy Mission. It is covered in phrases relating to friendship. Here is a selection of them –

- *A day spent with friends is a day well spent*
- *A good friend is a special gift from God*
- *Friendship isn't a big thing, it's a million little things*

I'm sure most of us can think of those to whom we are grateful, who have been good friends to us. Of course, friendship varies between people and is expressed in different ways, partly due to our personality type. Some people have an abundance of friends, where others prefer to concentrate on two or three. Some would regard close family members as their best friends. Some friendships come from a common interest, whilst in others the friends are like chalk and cheese.

Of course, when we are both Christians, this adds a whole new dimension to the friendship. One of the many verses of scripture that I love concerns the close friendship between David and Jonathan. David's life was in constant danger as King Saul tried to find and kill him, but Jonathan, Saul's son, remained faithful to his friend David. In 1 Samuel 23 v. 16 we read, 'Then Jonathan, Saul's son, got up and went to David and helped him find strength in God.' He goes on to encourage David and express his belief in the future plans God has for him.

About six weeks ago, a friend sent me a verse from the Bible that was appropriate for me at that time. However, I discovered that it wasn't just for that moment. In His amazing way, the Holy Spirit got a hold of it and repeatedly

brought it back to me for several weeks to come, enabling me to see new applications and different nuances as time went on. I was then able to share it with other some other believers to encourage them too. Like Jonathan, that friend helped me find strength in God.

We often hear references from Ed and Emma about 'discipleship pairings' but maybe some of you still think of this as some specialised partnership, possibly requiring training. Perhaps it may help to think of it as a Christian friendship – an opportunity to help someone find strength in God. Many Christians have a 'go-to' person who they ask for prayer in difficult situations or to whom they can give an honest answer to that question, 'How are you?' even if they are going through a tough time. That could be the very person who is your spiritual friend, your discipleship partner. Or maybe you are ready to develop a new spiritual friendship with someone you don't yet know too well. If you would like help with this, please speak to Emma or me.

As we soon start a new season, beyond lockdowns, may it be a time of renewing and deepening old friendships and finding new friends, who we can help find strength in God.

Chris Doust

PRAYER POINTERS

Pakistan

The 4.1m Christians in Pakistan face extreme persecution in every area of their lives, and blasphemy laws are used to target them. Pray for protection, resilience and blessing. For young women abducted and forced to convert.

G7 Summit

Please pray for the leaders of the G7 countries as they meet this weekend. As part of it's campaign for 'climate justice [Christian Aid](#) is calling for the UK to take a leading role in 'building a fairer and greener world for all.'

Church family

Pray for those in our fellowship recovering from surgery or other hospital treatments. Pray for those with long-term health conditions: pray for mental, emotional and spiritual resilience.

NEWSLETTER

6th June 2021

Battle Baptist Church
Being Transformed Together

Battle Baptist Church is part of Life with Hope Trust; registered charity 1134288, Mount Street, Battle,

East Sussex TN33 0EG.

- Website: www.battlebaptistchurch.org.uk
- Telephone and answerphone (01424) 774825 • Email: office@battlebaptistchurch.org.uk
- Caterpillar Preschool direct telephone line:

Church maintenance issues:
zionpremisesteam@gmail.com



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Getting more from your Bible: A short course led by Jenny and Shirley. Meet at the chapel on Tuesday evenings at 6pm from 15th June for one hour. Contact the office if you would like to participate.

Date for your diary: After the broadcast on Sunday 11th July, we would like to gather together for a family picnic at the Rec (subject to Government restrictions and the weather!).

Men's Events: If you are interested in joining the visit to Battle Brewery on Saturday 3rd July, please get in touch with Rob Hamilton directly: 01424 719057 or 07983 666255.

Foodbank: The Foodbank would be grateful for donations of any items on their standard list - thank you for your support.

Membership: An application for church membership has been received from Miriam Huessy. As is our custom, if any

member would like to comment on Miriam's application, please get in touch with the Elders.

WORLD VIEW

India: There are 67.4 million Christians in India (total population: 1.4 billion). There is a growing culture of religious intolerance in the country, with Hindu extremists seeking to rid India of those holding different faiths. Please pray for protection from attack for Indian believers, particularly new Christians. And praise be to God for the fact that many are coming to faith in India through miraculous healings and courageous witness. Source: Open Doors

Digging Deeper?

Find materials for further study under the 'For Further Fought...' tab on the church [website](#).

Membership

Join Ed and Rita to explore what it means to be a member of BBC—either on Thurs 1st July at 7.30pm, or on Sun 4th July at 4pm, at the chapel.

Catching up?

Go to the BBC [YouTube Channel](#) to find sermons, broadcasts, testimonies and more.

What's on this week....

The Caterpillar Pre-School is open Monday to Friday

Sunday 13th June

- 10.30am **Worship Gathering** online or at the chapel (please book your seats in advance)
- 5 - 6pm **Sunday Breakout** online for teens

Monday 14th June

- 9.30 - 10am **Prayer meeting**
- 3.45 - 5.15pm **Chosta** for years 7-13. Come along for games, chat, discussion and more.

Tuesday 15th June

- 10 - 11am **Walking Football** at the Rec
- 6 - 7pm **Getting more from your Bible** at the chapel

Wednesday 16th June

- 12 - 12.30pm **Prayer meeting** via Zoom
- 6.30pm **BTFC Runners** meet at the chapel

Thursday 17th June

- 9.30 - 10am **Prayer Meeting**
- 1 - 3pm **Worship Working Party** in the Youth Room

Friday 18th June

- 7.30 - 8.15am **Early Morning Prayers** in the Youth Room
- 7 - 9pm **BBC Youth** Check Instagram for exact details of timings and activities.

Sunday 20th June

- 10.30am **Worship Gathering** online or at the chapel (please book your seats in advance)
- 5pm 6pm **Sunday Breakout** online for teens